

**REMARKS**

The present invention relates to an ink for inkjet recording comprising a dye, water, a water-miscible organic solvent and a precursor of acid, and to an ink set and ink jet recording method.

In the Office Action date June 4, 2004, the Examiner noted certain corrections regarding repeated terms to be made at page 4 and 5 of the specification. The Examiner also made related objections to claim 3 and 6 to improve the terminology thereof and eliminate redundant recitations. Claims 1, 3, 6, and 8 were provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting based on claims 1, 5, and 7 of co-pending application number 10/119,897. Claims 1-6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(d) based on Yano et al (U.S. Patent 6,015,455), and claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) based on Omatsu et al (U.S. Publication 2003/0097959). Lastly, Claims 1-3, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on EP 0 911 374.

Applicants have hereinabove amended the specification and the claims to overcome the informalities noted by the Examiner, as well as others. Furthermore, based on the amendments to the claims herein, including the incorporation of claims 2 and 4 into claim 1, and the amendment of claim 3, it is respectfully submitted that the amended claims 1-9 herein distinguish over all of the art cited as bases for the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103.

It is noted that the present invention relates to an ink for inkjet recording, comprising a dye, water-miscible organic solvent, and a precursor of acid. The precursor of acid represents the compound that does not show acidity at a preparation of ink solution or during preservation

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of ink, but which is capable of releasing an acid or acidifying a system as a result of reaction at aging or printing.

By means of the present invention including the ink for inkjet reporting, the ink set for inkjet record, and the inkjet recording method, images which remain sharp and do not become blurb even under high humidity conditions can be provided. The constitution, function, and affects of the present invention are not described in the cited references.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-9 of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

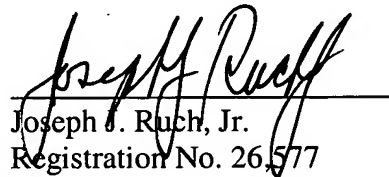
Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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